



WILSON GRANTS

Students reflect on a summer pursuing passions around the world

11-13

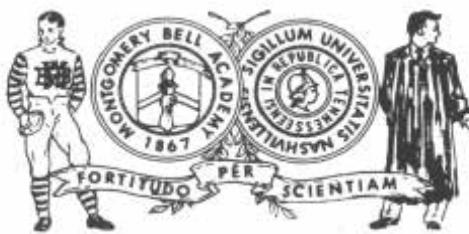
THEATER PREVIEW

The Bell Ringer examines the 2012-2013 theater schedule

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THE BELL RINGER



Montgomery Bell Academy

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PARRISH PRESTON/BR

GOING UP: Construction on the new Wallace Hall progressed quickly over the last few months. The Finance Office has the new cafeteria and classroom building slated for a late-winter opening.

Brave new Wallace

The latest phase of construction on the Hill in progress over summer vacation

By Sam Weien
Asst. News Editor

The new Wallace Hall began construction in January and has made steady progress since. The exoskeleton of the building is now complete, and the roof has been fitted on the structure. Like last year, the unfinished frame of the new building remains prominent on the MBA campus.

As the school year progresses, the building will gradually take its final form.

The new Wallace Hall, which does not technically have an official name yet, according to Mr. Jackson, Director of Finance and Operations, is currently set for completion by Mid-February. The targeted completion date is February 10th, and Mr. Gioia has said that the construction is currently several weeks ahead of schedule.

When it opens, however, there will still be work to do. As with the Lowry Building, the new Wallace will still be under construction for a while students move in. Jackson said, "There will be several small items to complete after we move in and are using the dining hall and classrooms."

Meanwhile, construction on Lowry has been officially completed. Although the

>> CONSTRUCTION, 2

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NEW TEACHERS 4
Four new teachers discuss their hopes for the coming year, and which "Dark Knight" they prefer

ALL THE TACOS

Bell Ringer samples every single taco at Local Taco



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HAIR
POLICY

What exactly are your options when trying to comply to the hair guidelines on campus?

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MBA football to commence 114th season

By Jody Gorham
Staff Writer

As football season rolls around, the team feels confident it can build on the foundation coach Marty Euverard laid last year in his inaugural season. Now, with Dylan Hall ('13) at the helm, the Big Red look to make a run at this year's title. However, they will have to make it past the two-time state champs Ensworth High School as well as the always competitive Brentwood Academy and Baylor. MBA will also have to face Kentucky's Trinity School, one of the top football schools in the nation.

The emphasis this year seems to be on the hefty offensive and defensive lines. With Gray Bryant ('13) and John Powell ('13), along with Alex Bars ('14) and Vandy commit Jay Robertson ('14) on the O-line, the run looks to be the go-to this year. The Big Red have a plethora of backs—including JeTarii Donald ('13), Gary Jackson ('13) and Tony Drew ('14)—who have all proven to be tough to stop. Don't count the pass out, though, as MBA has a veteran quarterback in Dylan Hall, who has a few weapons in his arsenal. Along with being deceptively shifty, Dylan has receivers Brooks Best,

>> FOOTBALL, 17

Board renews Gioia contract

By Sam Weien
Asst. News Editor

Headmaster Gioia this past spring agreed with the Board of Trustees to extend his tenure with the school for an additional five years. Mr. Gioia, who has overseen a transformation of both the school's campus and its national and international reach, is beginning his fourth separate employment agreement with the school. He started his career at MBA with a three-year agreement, followed by three separate five-year contracts.

The tenure extension process,

>> HEADMASTER, 3



IN THE SHADOW OF LOWRY: Lowry remains the newest building on campus, but not for long. The brick has already been laid on the exterior of the new Wallace Hall facing the football field (left). A maze of cranes and scaffolding engulf the front entrance of the new cafeteria (right).



PARRISH PRESTON/BR

Next phase to convert dining hall into music classrooms

>> FROM CONSTRUCTION, 1

Lowry Building opened up for student use in January, it was not entirely finished. Many students noticed the construction crews working in the Dead Poets Society Room as well as making other minor adjustments to the building. But, starting this year, the construction crews will no longer be roaming the halls of Lowry. The entire building is now complete from a construction standpoint.

At this time last year, the frame of Lowry hulked in the background of the campus. As the 2012-13 school year approaches, the new Wallace Hall grows in the heart of campus. The movement of the dining hall will leave more space in the Davis building to the art and music departments.

Since the cafeteria will no longer be in the Davis building, it too will undergo many changes. With the absence of the cafeteria in Frist Hall, the empty space will

be taken over by the jazz band and the rest of the music program, added Jackson. In turn, the art department will use the former music rooms, since the department currently lacks necessary space.

These plans, however, are still in their formative stages. Mr. Jackson said that "Mr. Gioia and the architects will have to decide on the scope of renovation, then the design work and plans will have to be completed." The earliest date for work to begin is the summer of 2013.

A typical commencement ceremony takes place on the lawn in front of Wallace. But in May, the 2011-12 school year ended differently from most. The Class of 2012 received their diplomas in front of the Ingram building, due to the construction of the new Wallace building. Although the venue change will not be permanent, the new additions and changes on campus will last for generations.



ALL SMILES: Frist brought leadership and medical experience to the 2012 International AIDS Conference

COURTESY OF AP

Frist ('70) leads panel on US AIDS relief

By Matt Miccioli
Asst. Business Manager

For the first time in twenty-two years, the 2012 International AIDS Conference took place in the United States with a distinguished MBA alumnus playing a key role. The conference was located in Washington, D.C. and lasted from July 19 to July 27, with the theme of "Turning the Tide Together."

It represented a collaboration between many groups in the larger AIDS community that is necessary to defeat the disease. Many believe that this goal is now within reach.

Bill Frist is working toward this goal by encouraging bipartisan collaboration in Congress. Attending the conference for three days, Frist spoke about the importance of continuing support

for PEPFAR, The President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, a program that he helped shepherd through Congress as Senate Majority Leader in 2003.

At the conference, Frist helmed "The US Congress and the Global AIDS Epidemic," a bipartisan panel consisting of Senators Marco Rubio, Chris Coon, Mike Enzi and Representative Barbara Lee.

The panel under Frist's tutelage discussed altering the anti-prostitution portions of PEPFAR as well as emphasizing how foreign aid spending must be maintained. Creating an AIDS free generation was a common cry by Congresswoman Lee and Senator Rubio.

However, the topic most discussed by the panel was the financial challenge that the initiative faces. Senator Rubio commented that eliminating foreign aid would do nothing to remedy the

nation's fiscal difficulties. In an interview Frist noted that future support for PEPFAR would be difficult to gain.

"The backdrop for the next five years," he said, "will be focused on fiscal restraint. At a time where most Americans falsely believe that we are spending 10 percent on foreign aid and development – even when we're spending 1 percent of the budget on foreign aid – the challenge becomes even more acute."

Locally, Frist is also involved with the Hope Through Healing Hands organization, serving as its chairman. Based in Nashville, the charity has focused on famine in East Africa, accessibility to clean water and disaster relief in Haiti.

Frist, a medical doctor, has made the expanding healthcare availability across the world a signature part of his political legacy.

Singapore offers new opportunity

By Sam Weien
Asst. News Editor

MBA students have traveled from South Africa to Australia and almost anywhere in between. This past summer, MBA added a new nation to its exchange agenda. MBA established its first official exchange program in Singapore.

Three students stayed at the Raffles Institute in Singapore. Named after Stamford Raffles, the founder of Singapore, it is the most prominent school in the nation, as well as one of the best schools in all of Asia.

Seniors George Swenson, J. T. Braun, and Falkner Werkhaven made the journey on behalf of MBA. While there, each stayed with English-speaking host-families and experienced a vastly different culture. While Nashville is a very suburban town in a very large country, Singapore is a tightly packed city-state. Yet the contrast seemed to be a positive aspect for the students. George Swenson stated that "Singapore really opened [his] eyes to just exactly how big this world is."

This was not the first time MBA students have ventured to Singapore. MBA has sent students to the island nation for leadership and service symposiums. Yet this trip was the first true exchange between Raffles and MBA. Through the continuing exchange program, as well as MBA's other international endeavors, the school is expanding its presence not just in Nashville, but throughout the globe.

Freshman Ocoee Trip



COURTESY OF MR. WILL NORTON

WHITE WATER RAFTING: The newly minted freshman class tried their hand at rafting the Ocoee River in Georgia. Administrators hope the trip will solidify the class going into high school for the long road ahead

Headmaster excited to continue shaping school

>> FROM CONTRACT, 1

thoughtful, and focused on the headmaster's commitment to the students, faculty, and development of the school."

The Board of Trustees considers school performance and how Headmaster Gioia is engaged in the school. Further, Mr. Gioia said, "the Board looks at the bottom line numbers such as the strategic enrollment and the faculty strength."

After this review, the Board makes a decision on the extension of Headmaster Gioia's tenure. The standard length of a tenure extension at most schools is five years.

As headmaster, Mr. Gioia acts as an ambassador for MBA, and travels across the the world. Of all the countries in which he has visited schools, several have especially caught his attention. He noted that he finds South Africa fascinating because of its leadership role on a continent in flux. He is also interested in China and its emergence in the 21st century.

Mr. Gioia enjoys visiting other schools for the opportunity to see the uniqueness of education in different nations. His extended travels have helped to create an international focus at MBA. Exchanges, international symposia and Wilson Language Grants are proof of the emphasis Mr. Gioia has placed on a connection with the entire world.

Headmaster Gioia has several short term goals for the school. One is the establishment of a robotics program at the school. He also hopes that MBA will be able to connect with the Nashville community

better, not only through service, but also through environmental responsibility and the possible establishment of a TEDx program on campus.

Longer term goals include "maintaining and creating excellence while allowing individuality." He wants to sustain the quality of the faculty while increasing student awareness.

But there are some challenges in the future as well.

One of the challenges, Mr. Gioia believes, will be "keeping the excellence of the school in a balanced manner." Moreover, since technology has become such a prominent part of education, he wants to make sure that MBA students "learn about and utilize technology, but use it as a tool and not a solution."

Mr. Gioia seems a permanent figure on campus, whether in his office, teaching English or leading the school each Monday at assembly in Paschall Theater, yet few students know the path that led him to MBA.

Mr. Gioia first came to MBA after 18 years at the Darlington School in Rome, Georgia. He began as a teacher but was eventually promoted to headmaster. During his eighteen years at Darlington, he became very close to former MBA headmaster Dr. Paschall, whom he had also known from Sewanee.

As Dr. Paschall prepared to step down in 1994, Mr. Gioia was contacted about the open headmaster position. While he had received his undergraduate education at Sewanee and was very familiar with

Nashville, Mr. Gioia said that he was truly drawn to MBA by "the balance of the school and the quality of relationships at the school".

During his years in Nashville, Mr. Gioia has seen many changes in education. He has seen the rise of charter schools, as well as increased competitiveness in the private school community. He has witnessed the rapid entrance of technology into education.

He has also seen the shift from kindergarten through sixth grade to kindergarten through fourth grade elementary schools, which has affected the enrollment patterns at MBA.

Mr. Gioia has seen the typical student at MBA change as well. As he put it, "there is more diversity, not only on the box that a student checks on the SAT, but also in where the students come from. Also, the students are very intentional about being at the school".

Headmaster Gioia is very happy to continue at MBA, a school where "there is a lot of variety in the campus, faculty, and students, all balancing both academics and athletics". He also noted that he enjoys "seeing capable teachers acting as mentors, personally impacting the students."

In the past eighteen years, MBA has grown tremendously under the leadership of Headmaster Gioia. As the 146th year of MBA begins, Mr. Gioia hopes to continue implementing his vision for the future and have a positive impact on the school.

MBA to Begin School Year With New Honor Council Constitution

By Aaron Kaplan
Staff Writer

This year the new Honor Council Constitution goes into effect. In the spring of the 2011-2012 school year, MBA's student body voted on and ratified a new Honor Council Constitution.

The Honor Council Constitution had previously essentially remained unchanged since 1945. The new constitution is very straightforward, as are the reasons behind its creation.

Current Honor Council President George Swenson ('13) highlights the fact that there are many benefits to the new constitution, and that it should be viewed as a positive change. The changes that were enacted do not radically shift the purpose of the Honor Code and Honor Council on campus.

They do, however, update the rules governing the body so that it can respond to 21st century problems. The goal is for students and faculty to have access to a detailed document that can directly guide them in their actions on campus. As Swenson puts it, the previous constitution "was very vague and did not sufficiently aid the Honor Council when it was needed."

The new Constitution is organized into articles and sections that can be easily sorted through to find a answers to questions one might have regarding the Honor Code.

Swenson says that "the new constitution outlines and talks about all the different forms of cheating, so now students can be more than aware of when they are cheating." Still, though, a teacher's honor policy for his or her class overrides the Honor Council Constitution for work in that class.

The new Honor Council Constitution, written by former President Scott Dalton along with others associated with the Honor Council, past and present, is a comprehensive document that leaves little grey areas regarding the honor regulations at MBA.

The previous constitution was not changed, but rather explained in more detail that is more straightforward. The new constitution equips MBA's student body and faculty with an up-to-date Honor Code that not only applies to honor issues specific to this day in age (uses of certain online resources, etc.) but also describes the Honor Code in a clear and explicit manner.

Instead of the confusion that one might expect when switching to a new system, Swenson believes that the new constitution will immediately make the Honor Council fairer and more effective.

Fresh Faces

Four new members of the MBA faculty share personal insights



Mr. Matthew Kimball: English

Q **What brought you to MBA?**

I suppose this question has two parts. As a rising seventh grader, I wanted to experience the wealth of history and knowledge that only MBA could have provided. Over a decade later, the love of literature that my English teachers instilled in me while I was a student on The Hill burned stronger than ever. I can't imagine a more rewarding profession than sharing that same passion with a new generation of students.

Q **Are you more excited or nervous to teach at MBA?**

I could not possibly be more excited. I haven't been able to wipe the smile off my face since the day I learned that I would be rejoining the MBA community.

Q **What extracurricular activities will you contribute to at MBA?**

I will be helping out with the junior school golf and high school JV baseball teams. In the winter I will be helping with our strength and conditioning program. In addition I will be working on school publications and tutoring for writing development.

Q **“Dark Knight” or “Dark Knight Rises?” Why?**

My first question would be if we can choose any of the Batman movies. If you include “Batman Begins,” then I would choose the original. If I only get to choose between “Dark Knight” and “Dark Knight Rises,” then I’d pick “Dark Knight Rises. Bane, Catwoman and Robin...all in the same movie...what more could you want?

Q **What are your secret talents?**

I really enjoy drawing, writing, and painting, but I suppose the most surprising talent I have only comes out in arcades. Nobody will get you more tickets for your dollar.

Q **Who, in your opinion, is the coolest man, woman, or child of all time?**

Michelangelo, hands down. He crossed artistic fields so impressively. He was a sculptor, an architect, a painter, and a poet. He produced more work in more fields than anyone else of his age, and a large percentage has survived to this day.



Mr. Will Hannon: Science

Q **What brought you to MBA?**

I went here as a student and loved the school and everything that it is working towards. I have always considered teaching and I was happy to come back to the Hill.

Q **Are you more excited or nervous to teach at MBA?**

I am excited because it gives me the opportunity to give back to a place that influenced me so much.

Q **What extracurricular activities will you contribute to at MBA?**

I will work with Science Olympiad, Debate and Ultimate Frisbee.

Q **“Dark Knight” or “Dark Knight Rises?” Why?**

As of right now, I haven't seen “Dark Knight Rises” yet. So I have to go with the “Dark Knight,” until I see it.

Q **What are your secret talents?**

I don't have any particular secret talents I can think of.

Q **Who, in your opinion, is the coolest man, woman, or child of all time?**

Harrison Ford. Indiana Jones and Han Solo, need I say more?

Check in next issue for another group of new faces



Mr. Mark West: French

Q **What brought you to MBA?**

A 2002 Ford Taurus...oh, you mean circumstances? Great school close to family.

Q **Are you more excited or nervous to teach at MBA?**

50/50. I'm so nervous and excited, I don't know. I'm like the Owen Wilson character in the rocket in Armageddon.

Q **What extracurricular activities will you contribute to at MBA?**

French Club, Service Club, donut runs.

Q **“Dark Knight” or “Dark Knight Rises?” Why?**

Neither, I'm an Adam West fan. The old TV series trumps the films. BAM! POW!

Q **What are your secret talents?**

I play air drums and do impressions. Sometimes I do stand up philosophy.

Q **Who, in your opinion, is the coolest man, woman, or child of all time?**

Hard to say. They're everywhere.



Dr. Laurel Young: English

Q **What brought you to MBA?**

MBA offered me the unique opportunity to combine my interests in teaching and college counseling.

Q **Are you more excited or nervous to teach at MBA?**

I'm excited to be teaching my subject area, British Literature.

Q **What extracurricular activities will you contribute to at MBA?**

I will be on the 12th grade Social and Concessions committees.

Q **“Dark Knight” or “Dark Knight Rises?” Why?**

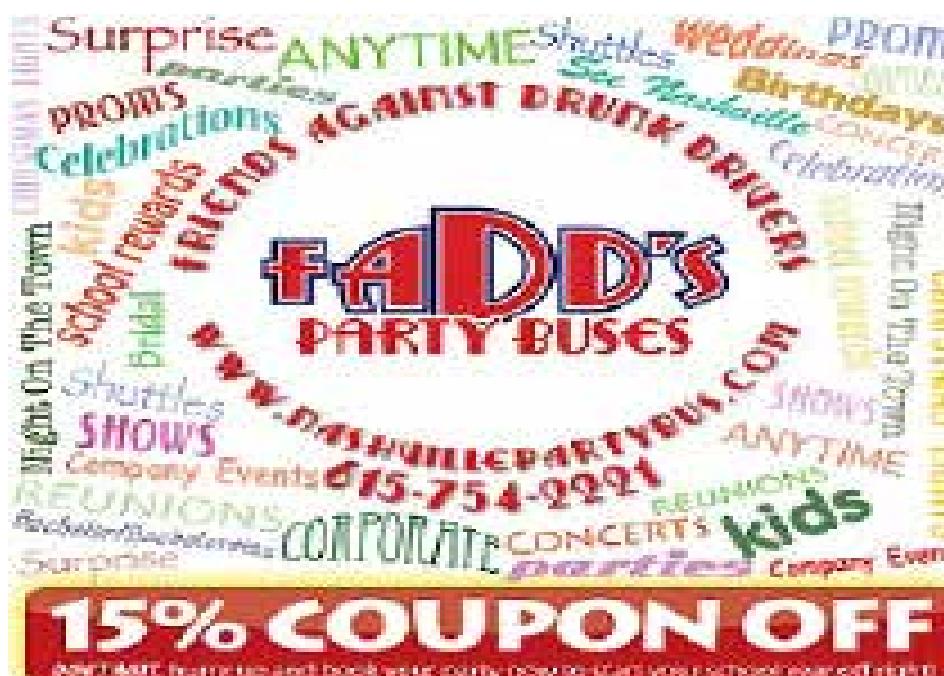
“Dark Knight.” I think of it as the “Empire Strikes Back” of the series.

Q **What are your secret talents?**

I can analyze handwriting. This does not, however, mean I can always decipher bad handwriting!

Q **Who, in your opinion, is the coolest man, woman, or child of all time?**

I would have to say Agatha Christie, as I am a huge fan of detective fiction and she is the one author who can consistently stump me with her fiendishly clever mysteries.



With Coach Mawae gone, state of lunch line questioned

New supervisors hope to maintain control of the lunch line until the move to Wallace Hall is complete

By Sam Hurd
Staff Writer

The lunch line has always been a matter of difficulty. The narrow hallway causes long lines and mobs to form around the door. With Coach Mawae, the leader of the lunch line, gone, questions are being raised concerning the state of the lunch line.

The lunch line is supervised by a group of faculty. With Coach Mawae absent, Mr. Lee Webb joins the ranks of faculty members helping to supervise the lunch line.

This new responsibility comes as part of Mr. Webb's expanding role on campus, having been named a Dean of Students over the summer.

Falkner Werkhoven ('13) expressed optimism about Mr. Webb. "Hopefully, the addition of Mr. Webb's ability to wrangle students yields a more efficient queue for lunch," he said.

Last year, a new system was adopted to keep the lunch line in order. Tape separated the senior line from the other line and worked to keep the volume around the door at a lower level. This system helped eliminate some of the craziness in the lunch line, but it was not completely cleared of chaos.

Unless a more effective method is brought forward, the same tape system will be used. John Higham ('14) called for reform, saying, "I hope that we return to the original two line format. No disrespect



TOM BU/BR

SCENE OF THE CRIME: *The now calm lunch line will be a proving ground for Mr. Lee Webb in the first semester*

... but the three lines do not work well."

With the construction of the new Wallace building, the lunchroom will undergo drastic changes. In the new building, the lunch line will be much more manageable. As Mr. Norton pointed out, "The openness and space of the new lunchroom will likely prevent the bottleneck that occurs in the current setup."

The lunch line has had many

problems in the past. The new tape system developed this past year as well as Coach Mawae's presence helped to alleviate some of the troubles.

With Mr. Webb helping to lead it, the line may remain under control until the new building is finished.

Michael Piana ('13) was concerned about the past senior lunch line privilege: "Going into my senior year and

having seen the past seniors have their own line, I only hope we have our own too."

William Yang ('13) however, provided the most philosophical insight, saying, "Order comes from chaos and it is only when we sift through the chaos until we find order that we will truly see the lunch line work."

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PARRISH PRESTON/BR

BOLD MOVES: *Currently only old issues of the Bell Ringer can be seen online. Soon it will have a real website.*

The Bell Ringer Moves to Cyberspace

We at the Bell Ringer are excited to announce a new era in our paper's history. After sixty-eight iterations and countless editions bound to our paper form, or at least a copy of our paper form, we, the sixty-ninth, are moving to the internet. This move comes after a good bit of consideration and conversation about things like tradition and logistics, but in reality, we felt the only choice was to move forward, and forward means adapting. Many of our larger professional brethren are suffering because they are over-invested in print. We have no such problem, but still, it seems most anything tethered to print has a defined shelf life. This choice means relevance, convenience, and most of all, room to grow.

This new medium gives us a chance to do things we have never had the chance to do before, whether because of space or simply the constraints of a physical paper. The change also means that the paper can be with you more than just one Friday morning out of each month. Ideally, the Bell Ringer can become a consistent part of student life, your source for recaps of current school events, sports analysis, entertainment as it happens and topical opinions.

Our main hope is to make the website a reflection of the same quality and student-centered journalism as our print edition. There will be more opportunities for students to write, sure, but we look to expand without diluting the product. For the future of this paper, this is a massive step towards even bigger, better things. Change at this paper has been incremental. From eight pages to twenty-four, from black and white to color, from one editor to the next, but this increment takes us squarely from one century into another. There will be growing pains, there will be adjustments, but we will boldly go where no Bell Ringer has gone before.



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ELECTION CENTRAL 2012

MBA's ONLY SOURCE FOR ELECTION COMMENTARY



WISCONSIN BADGERED: Will Paul Ryan deliver his home state to the Romney Campaign?

ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF AP

RYAN IS NO GAME CHANGER, AT LEAST NOT THE ONE ROMNEY WANTS

By John Mellow
Associate Editor

When presidential hopeful John McCain chose Sarah Palin as his running mate in 2008, she was immediately heralded as a “game changer”, someone who could breathe new life into the McCain campaign. The term was even used as the title of a movie starring that Haymitch guy from *The Hunger Games* that dealt with the controversy surrounding Palin in the final months of the race.

Traditionally, running mates are not picked for their presumed effectiveness at the job of vice president but to shore up weaker areas of the ticket and pick up votes. While the scope and legitimacy of the vice president as a policymaker has expanded significantly in the last two decades, its ability to strengthen the ticket is still the primary metric used to judge the strength of potential VP nominees.

Evidence of this trend can be seen in the picks of all the recent presidential candidates. McCain picked Palin to make the ticket look younger and pull traditionally democratic women over to the Republican side; Obama picked Biden to lend gravitas to his campaign, win then Amtrak crowd, and shore up his foreign policy credentials; Kerry picked Edwards to court lower and middle class voters and to develop a bond with rural and suburban America; and Bush picked Cheney because the Pantheon of

Darkness wanted someone to be their eyes and ears in the White House and Cthulhu was busy.

That brings us to Paul Ryan, Romney's vice presidential running mate, announced on August 11. As of the writing of this article, a host of major media outlets, including but not limited to CNN, Real Clear Politics, Fox News, and Brookings, are proclaiming Ryan as a game changer for the Romney campaign, and to be fair, the pick of someone like Ryan doesn't come as a surprise. Romney has been trailing in the polls, not by an insurmountable gap but still enough to indicate that if the campaign were to continue on its current path, it would be a long slog for Romney. This pick for VP is not one of tactics but one of a desire to shake up the race.

The majority of the time, presidential candidates pick a centrist running mate to draw independents and pick up votes that aren't traditionally within their party's base. Paul Ryan is nowhere close to the center. Based on his voting record, he is as conservative as Michelle Bachman, and far more conservative than any Democrat is liberal. At face value, this choice is one that could help Romney, and truly be a positive game changer. Romney, a super-rich Mormon from the Northeast (except for his Latino father), has never appealed as much as he would like to the neoconservative, rural base that is a traditional stronghold for any Republican nominee, and Romney

himself can't drift too far to the right without seeming disingenuous. Ideally Ryan would be able to pull these neocon voters firmly over to the Romney camp, in addition to serving as a well-established budget hawk to further shore up the fiscally conservative Republican base.

Unfortunately for Romney, the rosy picture of Ryan as someone who can expand the base while also locking down the traditional conservative voters isn't actually the case. The fact is, most neocon and Bible Belt voters are already going to vote for Romney, purely because their mistrust of the Muslim communist named Obama is enough to outweigh their apathy towards Romney. In fact, picking someone specifically to court the *über*conservative voters could easily backfire - just look at what happened with Sarah Palin.

It's even a toss up over whether or not Romney will be able to pick up Ryan's home state of Wisconsin, which is still leaning towards Obama. If Romney wanted a pick that would allow him to win a battleground state, he should've picked Ohio's Rob Portman or Florida's Marco Rubio; both would've provided a better chance to win a more important state. Rubio would have come with the added bonus of mobilizing the growing Hispanic demographic and making people think Romney has the point guard for the Minnesota Timberwolves on the ticket. In fact, Ricky Rubio would have done

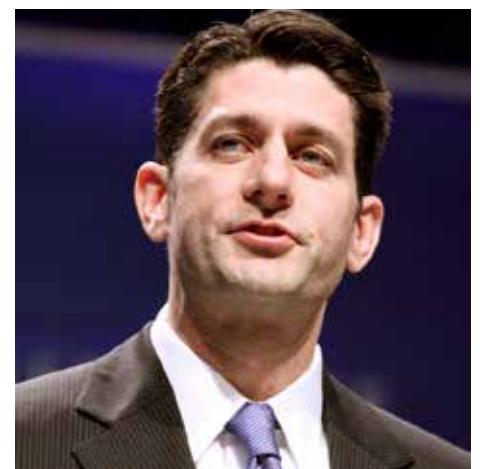
both those things, but his Spanish heritage renders him ineligible for the office.

The choice of Ryan even stands to hurt the Republican ticket in those very battleground states that are most needed, namely Florida, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. His proposed overhaul of Medicare will likely scare away the relatively large senior population of those three states, and his hard line stance on immigration will be enough to firmly alienate the Hispanic population of Florida.

That brings us at last to The Path to Prosperity, Paul Ryan's budget plan. Now, whether or not the plan would actually work (read: it wouldn't), it is a huge liability for the Romney campaign. Throughout the race up to this point, Obama has been hammering Romney on his tax policy and the amount of taxes Romney himself pays. Under Ryan's proposed plan, Romney would have paid a tax rate of less than one percent in 2010, compared to the already low rate he paid of 13.9%. He would also raise taxes on the lowest 30% of society. By picking Ryan, Romney is just sticking his chin out for Obama to land a solid jab-jab-uppercut on this very issue of taxation.

When Mitt Romney chose Paul Ryan as his running mate, he wanted someone that could shake up the race and push him ahead in the polls. Unfortunately for Romney, Ryan is looking to be precisely the type of game changer that will conversely help Obama and hurt the Republicans.

Election Central will be a recurring segment throughout the semester. Follow the Bell Ringer for continuing coverage of the 2012 election season.





TOM BU/BR

HIGH AND TIGHT: A safe alternative to the *Curly Headed Mess*

What we talk about when we talk about hair

Wells helps you through the endless options

By Wells Hamilton
Features Editor

When your thoughts wander in class at MBA, you're most likely thinking of advanced calculus problems and possible alternative treatments for fatal diseases. However, sometimes your mind may wander to pondering banalities. Perhaps you've asked yourself, "I know everyone's hairstyle at MBA is the same, but was it always so?" The answer is yes, yes it has always been so. Close evaluation of the many volumes of MBA yearbooks will prove this conclusion. The MBA handbook states a student's hair should always be neatly trimmed above the eyebrows in front, above the collar in back, and above the middle of the ear. Sideburns may extend as far as the earlobes. MBA expects each student to be clean-shaven and to avoid extremes of hair lengths, colors, or styles such as a Mohawk or spiked hair.

Facial hair is always a cause for

concern for many junior schoolers who fear razor burn. Luckily, teachers can provide ample shaving equipment for anyone who forgets to shave in the morning. Being clean shaven is an important part of the MBA appearance.

Now most MBA students prefer an average length haircut with their hair swooped "casually" to the right. Abnormalities to this unspoken code are listed below:

The Bowl Cut: Usually not a popular style past the first week of seventh grade. Also, it is a hairstyle that is usually a source of ridicule.

The Buzz Cut: A style that's very popular during the spring and summer months for MBA students. It's perfectly within the rules and gives you a nice rugged military look.

The Shaved Head: Usually means it's your first year on a varsity team. If you've ever wondered what you'd look like without hair,

take up hockey or lacrosse.

The Faux Flow: Having actual flow makes a student an obvious target for a haircut warning. Some students adopt a hybrid flow, where they push all that luscious amount of hair on top of their heads and hope that teachers are fooled. Results may vary.

Curly Headed Mess: Naturally curly haired students can accumulate a large amount of curly locks on top of their head while still staying within the parameters of proper hairstyle. Eventually though, the mass of hair will capsize.

The Afro: Not for the faint of heart. It's big and it's audacious, but if you got it, flaunt it. At least until they make you cut it.

That about sums up the general possibilities for style of hair for the average MBA student. Just remember, your hair is the only thing people look at, so make sure to run your hands through it as much as possible.

A QUICK REMINDER...

THE SCHOOL'S OFFICIAL HAIR POLICY ACCORDING TO THE 2012-13 STUDENT HANDBOOK

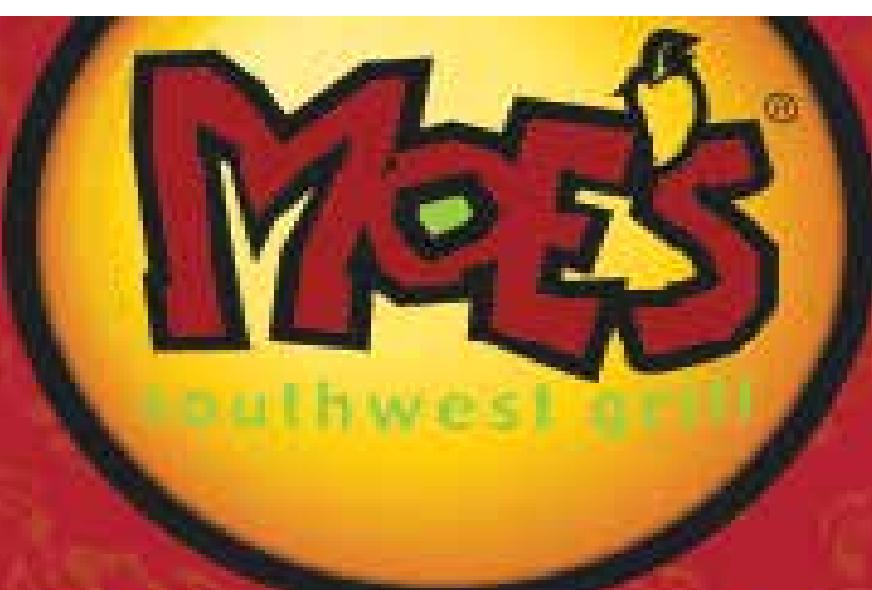
1. A student's hair should always be neatly trimmed above the eyebrows in front, above the collar in back, and above the middle of the ear.

2. Sideburns may extend as far as the earlobes.

3. MBA expects each student to be clean-shaven and to avoid extremes of hair lengths, colors, or styles such as a mohawk or spiked hair.

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AIN'T IT GRANT?

Dozens of students traveled domestically and abroad over the summer due to the greatly expanded Wilson Grant program

By Tarun Malipeddi
Opinions Editor

This past summer marked huge growth in the Wilson Grant program at MBA. The English, Math, History, and Arts departments all got endowments from the Wilson family to send gifted students around the country to gain more experience and knowledge of their fields. Additionally, the language grant program expanded to allow students going into their second year of language course to attend a Middlebury Monterey Language Academy.

Two years ago only the Wilson Language grant program existed. It was largely for students who were starting their third or fourth year of a language.

This year, the language grants sent twenty-five kids to countries such as Spain, Chile, Peru, China, France, Germany and Italy. The program for the first time also sent eight students on the Middlebury program to study their languages domestically. Those students

Over the summer, the Wilson family generously provided \$20,000 per department, with exception of the language department, who received more because of international costs, to send students across the country and across the world to learn and to immerse in culture. Over 75 students participated in one of these programs, including 33 language students. Several students shared their experiences with the Bell Ringer. These testimonials are featured on the next two pages.

will be placed on a priority list for foreign travel next summer.

Grants are no longer available solely for the Language Department though. The English Department sent seven students to various programs around the country at campuses including Duke, Sewanee, Brown and Cornell to study creative writing and literary analysis.

The Science Department sent

ten students to apply their knowledge at North Carolina State, Stanford, Duke and Michigan among others. Additionally, several students participated in the Vanderbilt Medical Research Fellowship for the second year, testing hypotheses in a laboratory setting.

The Arts Department sent nine students to nine different universities around the country, such as Carnegie-

Mellon and Boston University. The Math Department sent six students to five different programs. Finally, the History Department sent six students to five different programs at three different colleges.

Additionally, the Summer Study Grants Program sent thirteen students around the country for various endeavors. Students participated in a mission trip, debate camps and an independent research opportunity. For a community awareness project in Hong Kong, the school sent five students to represent MBA.

Last summer, twenty-five students travelled outside of Nashville to study their language. This summer, due to the dramatic expansion of grants available, over eighty students were able to go beyond the classroom to apply and expand their knowledge in the subject of their choosing.

>> Read student descriptions of their journeys on pages 12 and 13.

Featured Testimonial

What do Wilson Grants provide? Lucas Littlejohn describes in-depth his experience at the Art Institute of Chicago

By Lucas Littlejohn
Entertainment Editor

Thanks to the Wilson Family, I was able to spend two weeks at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago this summer from July 14th to the 27th, taking an oil painting class. SAIC is virtually a factory of professional artists, and they treat their Early College Program high schoolers with the same expectations as their undergrad students. That being said, it was a rigorous two weeks with high expectations, and I loved every minute.

I started and ended every day in Jones Hall, the undergrad dorms at SAIC. The dorms were at the corner of State and Madison, and if you know anything about the geography of Chicago, it's literally right in the middle of downtown. After breakfast I would walk the five or six blocks to my class, which was the

SAIC Columbus Drive building attached to the backside of the Art Institute itself. I had two teachers, Antonia and TJ, both of whom had an MFA in painting from the master's program at SAIC. In fact, Antonia is already a rising art star who came to the United States on a Fulbright Scholarship after being the premier artist at the Art Academy of Bulgaria. Basically, the teachers really knew what they were doing.

Class ran from 9am to 4pm every day with mandatory workshops on Tuesday and Thursday night from 5:30 to 7:30. We started each day with a class discussion about various aspects of paintings, and we often looked at slides of famous paintings in a computer room. What made the class so conducive to learning was its freedom within the specific assignments. As long as the final product of each piece stayed near the objective of the assignment, we were

free to take it any direction we wanted to. That being said, an abstract painting could be created out of a seemingly specific assignment. The assignments varied between conceptual and representational, like a self portrait, a few figure paintings, experimenting with text and the abstraction of poetry, and a completely open-ended final project, which acted as the culmination of everything we learned over two weeks.

The teachers also gave the class a new dimension by including activities other than just painting all day. This is what really rounded out the class. For example, two of the days were spent in the museum with the teachers giving commentary on famous pieces. Also, we learned how to stretch our own canvas, make a brush cleaner out of a jar and a can, and we read and discussed a famous essay titled "Seriousness and Difficulty in Art Criticism" by Jeremy Gilbert-Rolfe.

At SAIC they expect a well-rounded art education as well as artistic talent.

Two weeks at SAIC completely changed my perspective on art, thanks to the rigor of the class and the intellect of my teachers. I have never learned so much about art, and I will never look at art in a museum the same way again. The Early College Program at SAIC was exactly what I needed going forward into AP Art and with the plan to pursue art later in my life. To the Wilson Family, I cannot thank you enough for giving me this experience. For future summers, I can see myself as having set a precedent for MBA artists going to SAIC with the Wilson Fine Arts Grant. If any other student is interested in spending two or three weeks in Chicago next summer, don't hesitate to talk to me about it. You bring the talent, and SAIC will teach you how to think like an artist.



FOR EXAMPLE: Kevin Wang ('13) had an excellent piano adventure, including meeting world famous Argentine pianist Ingrid Fliter (left). Lucas Littlejohn ('13) and Kevin Wang pose with their instructors (middle and right, respectively).

COURTESY OF KEVIN WANG AND LUCAS LITTLEJOHN

student testimonials

Washington DC

"After having one heck of a summer, I can honestly say that there was no better experience than the week I spent at Georgetown University studying Sports Industry Management. In the sports management world, making connections can be one of the most integral parts of one's success. This program allowed me to meet "sports industry titans" who came to teach our classes. I was able to introduce myself to all of these teachers after the classes and even obtain their contact information (which has proven to be extremely helpful). I also learned that the single most important area of one's resume is not one's degree or

education but their internships. Outside of the classroom, we the students were able to enjoy local events like a Nationals baseball game, a VIP tour of the Redskins football stadium, and watching the D.C. fireworks. However, what really topped it all was the camaraderie among the students. I made so many friends who I still keep in touch with today. Although I can't tell the future, making all of these friends could also prove to be very helpful if we all go into the sports management industry as a profession! This trip was an experience I will never forget and I am so thankful that MBA provided me this opportunity." — **Drew Benson**

Pittsburgh

"I spent three weeks last June and July in Pittsburgh at Carnegie Mellon University studying art and design. I had one of the best times of my life and learned more than I could have imagined, not only about art techniques, but also about planning art projects, giving strong and helpful critiques, and putting together a portfolio. In addition, I made some great and very talented friends from all over the world along the way. I am very grateful to all who made this fantastic experience possible, and I would definitely recommend the program to anyone interested in studying art next summer." — **Rem Houghton**

Chicago

"Thanks to MBA I received two grants this summer. One was from the science department for a week long introductory course in civil engineering at North Carolina State University. In a short week, engineering camp was able to introduce me to all the ins and outs of civil engineering, from the field work of surveying and mixing concrete, to computer programs like auto cad and west point bridge design, even teaching me how to draw blueprints so that they met city and state regulations. Ultimately, I hope to apply these skills beyond MBA.

The other was for a four week debate camp at Northwestern University, where I was taught by two MBA debate alums, Tripp Rebrovick and Jesse Suh. These opportunities not only allowed me to visit colleges I am interested in and learn more about fields which intrigue me, but they also allowed me to see how extensive and accomplished the MBA community is." — **Rahul Ramanna**

Aspen

"This summer I spent four weeks at Aspen Music Festival with the Wilson Fine Arts Grant, studying with pianist Wu Han. Having attended the festival two times now, I have taken this opportunity to reflect on important and prevalent issues and ideas in the world of Classical music.

So for those wondering what I could possibly do at a music camp for 4 weeks, I did do much more than practicing, attending lectures and concerts, taking private lessons, and performing in recitals. Some highlights were performances by Garrick Ohlsson, Joshua Bell, and the Emerson String Quartet, as well as my master class with Juilliard Piano department chair Veda Kaplinsky.

Additionally, I was able to meet college and graduate students from Juilliard, New England Conservatory, and many other countries (two of my best friends were from Poland and Taiwan!). Only in an environment overflowing with dedicated musicians, however, was I able to go beyond the normal routine life of a musician and reflect on some hard truths in

the musical world.

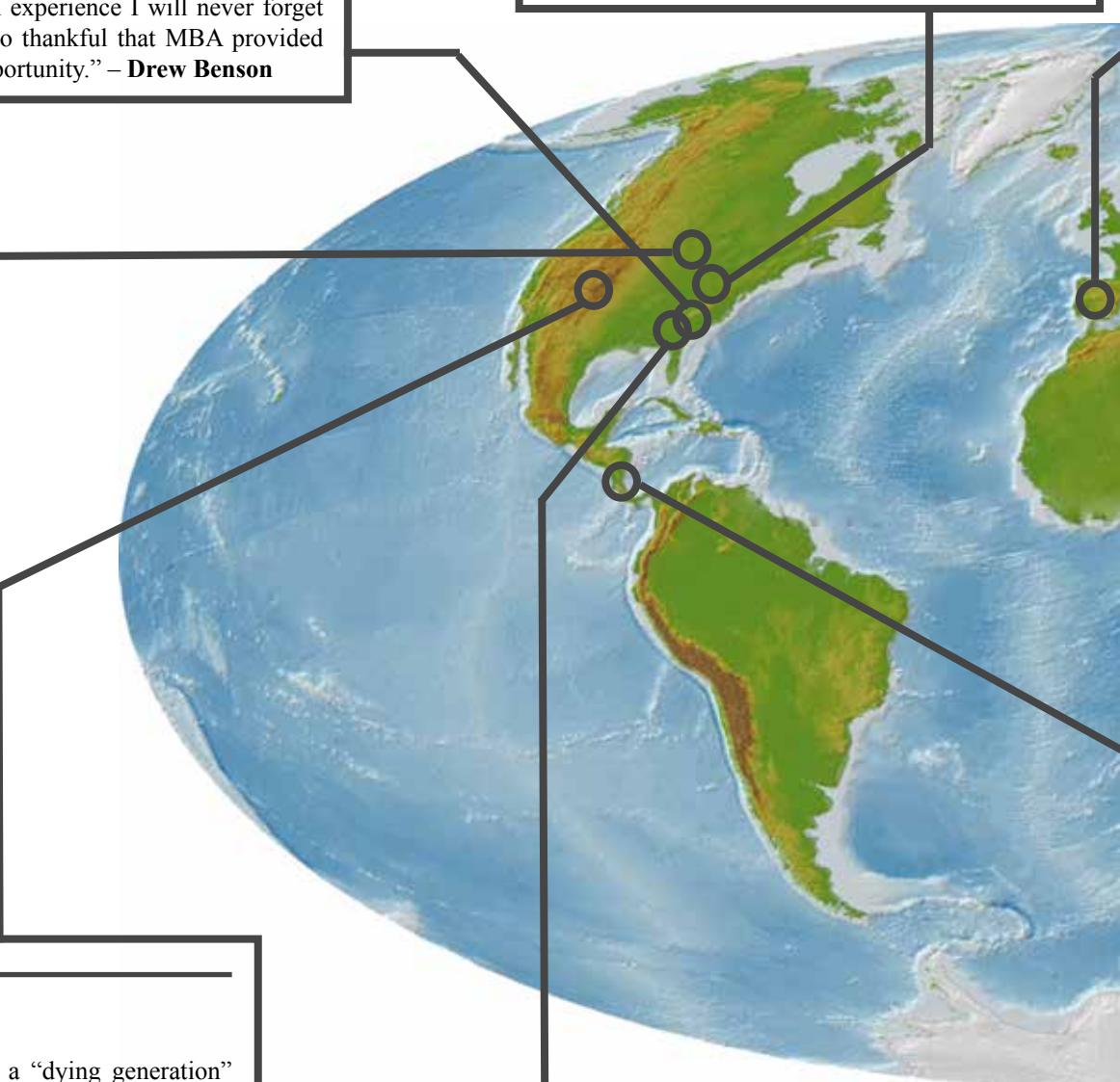
As part of a "dying generation" of music, I have learned to bond with my fellow Classical musicians in a unified effort to preserve the music that has served as the basis of all the "iPod" music most people take for granted today. Not only is it important to listen and attempt to appreciate the deep meanings written painstakingly into musical scores, but also to spread the beauty and significance of Classical music to the rest of the world as a fulfillment of our debt to great composers like Bach, Beethoven, and Chopin. I have thus realized that Classical, Pop, Rock, and Jazz are all in one musical family, and that we must work together to revive a member of our family if it should fall weak.

I strongly encourage everyone involved in music at MBA to attend a music festival, an experience that will without a doubt contribute to a more cosmopolitan perspective on music, as Aspen did for me. Also, I warmly thank the Wilson family for funding this beneficial and eye-opening experience." — **Kevin Wang**

Durham

"Not knowing what to expect, I showed up at the Duke Creative Writing Workshop just hoping for a good time. The combination of the wonderful people I met, from the instructors to the fellow campers, and the general experience of the camp made for a great time through and through. I discovered a writing form I'd never previously explored and found a comfort zone in voice and tone that now aids me in whatever writing I do.

After my extraordinary experience in Spain, I didn't have the highest hopes for a great second Wilson Grant experience. Though shorter and less grand than my trip to Spain, the Wilson English Grant trip turned out to be one of the highlights of an eventful summer. Thanks to all those who made it possible!" — **McLean Hudson**



These ten students, who all pursued passions this summer on account of the Wilson Grant program, describe the journeys and their lasting impact on each of them.

Spain

"I received a Wilson Language Grant to travel to Spain for five weeks through the Experiment in International Living. The exchange program I took was a class over Flamenco dance and music along with ceramic classes in the afternoon. The trip was unique because I didn't have to sit in a language immersion class, but I still learned a great deal of Spanish. We visited places such as Barcelona, Toledo, Guadix, Madrid, and Granada, the city where I stayed with a Spanish family for a two-week homestay. The experience was more than I could ever imagine and I am extremely grateful to have been able to go." – **Chris Burrus**

Ten students. Six countries. Three continents. Studying everything from art to music to engineering to Chinese. And this is only a sample of the dozens of students who received Wilson Grants this summer. These ten students attempt to summarize their experience, condensing weeks into several paragraphs, to create a sense of the scope of influence that the Wilson Grants have on the MBA community.

Germany

"The Wilson Language Grant opened my eyes to so much more German culture than I had previously seen in class, and the experience was life changing. I met some great people, ate new foods, and saw wonderful places. In addition to learning and practicing German, I also had the opportunity to hear and practice Bayerish, the dialect in southern Germany. Southern Germany was much different than I expected it to be. Contrasting from its northern counterpart, southern Germany is rural, with small towns and medieval castles connecting to each other. I hope that the information and experience I received in Germany can help the German program at MBA." – **Joe Werthan**

China

"I have had a perspective shifting experience in that what is normal to me is not normal to someone on the other side of the world. This understanding can even be applied to languages. However, language barriers and differences aren't unique to people from different countries, for even in China and the U.S. there are varying dialects within the countries themselves. Travelling and living with the same group of people for a month led to all of us becoming a tight-knit group, despite our diverse backgrounds. Although everyone in the world differs by varying degrees, we are all one, a fact that is becoming more and more evident. It is irrelevant whether we are from different regions of a country or from different hemispheres. I am grateful to have been exposed and to have grown more respect for the various Chinese and Asian cultures while simultaneously increasing my appreciation for the American culture. I will forever value and cherish the memories and lessons learned from this experience. Furthermore, I will convey my altered outlook of the world with others and the MBA community. I now look forward to continuing my pursuit of being fluent in Mandarin and helping the Chinese program in MBA to the best of my ability." – **Miles Curry**

Costa Rica

"Through the generous donation of the Wilson family, I was able to travel to Costa Rica through the Experiment in International Living. In summary, my group traveled to Corcovado National Park to work with conservation efforts in the area, went to a chocolate farm to learn about sustainable agriculture and chocolate production, a turtle conservation area to participate in night patrols for turtle eggs and poachers, and Playa Hermosa for some days of rest and relaxation at the beach. My homestay was in a mountainous city called Santa Maria de Dota, where I lived with the fun-loving Navarro family and truly found a second family. All in all, I learned that not only does one not need a great deal of material possessions to be happy, but also that I am extremely proud and grateful to live in a prosperous country like the United States. Many thanks to the Wilson family for their kindness." – **Davis Lovvorn**

Rome

"From navigating through airports by myself, to making new friends, to learning a new language and adapting to a foreign culture -- all of these are important lessons that I will need later in life, and all of these I learned on my trip to Rome. I learned so much about the history of the ancient city. Furthermore, everything I learned on the trip really helped to put a face on what I have learned in the classroom at MBA. For example, I have always read about the Roman Forum or the Palatine Hill. Now that I have really seen them, I have a better sense of the size and scale of the monuments, which has already helped me to understand more clearly what we have talked about in class. I enjoyed every minute of the sightseeing, the cultural immersion, and, of course, the gelato servings two to three times a day. But most of all I cherished the friendships that I made on this trip. After living with that special group of people -- after laughing, learning, and interacting together for three weeks, I felt like I had known every single person there for my entire life. Thank you to the Wilson family, and thank you to my friends from Rome. I will miss you like brothers and sisters." – **Harrison Davis**



FORTY WINKS: Always remember, the week is a poorly planned marathon, not a sprint.

PARRISH PRESTON/BR

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY: MBA NAPPING FOR DUMMIES

By Ben Barton

Staff Writer

It's Thurday. The night before, you had to study for a History test, finish a lab, and check your Facebook every 15 minutes because of your insecurity about your new profile picture (*It still doesn't have any likes. Should I change it back??*). The next day, you turn everything in on time, take your history test, and by the time 7th period study hall rolls around, you know that you have earned the nap that you are about to take. The question is never *if* or *when*, but *where*. MBA is a dangerous place to take a nap, with many "snipers" lurking to make facetious comments to you while you wonder to yourself why you ever thought sleeping in your car was a good idea. However, there is hope. The following places are prime spots

to nap during the day with low risk and maximum privacy.

You Car: Easily the most dangerous place to nap, not only because you are sleeping in the most obvious place to nap on campus, but because you also might die. Only a last resort. Leave sleeping in your car to the amatuers. **One Bell**

The Stairwell in the Library: Obviously not the central stairs, but the one next to the Ann Potter Wilson room that most people don't even know exists. I am not sure off the top of my head if one can turn the lights off, but if you are looking for a reliable, central location to nap, this would probably be your spot. Except for that one mysterious guy who spends all of his time in the stairwell

doing homework, you will probably nap undisturbed. **Two and a half Bells**

The JV Locker Room: The JV Locker room is one of the premier napping spaces on campus. It is out of the way, spacious enough to sleep in, and probably won't smell as bad during the day as it usually does in the late afternoon. One of the best things about it is that you have options: The floor for the unadventurous person, and the benches and top of lockers for those who feel the need to impress themselves with their own daring. The only danger of the JV locker room is getting sniped by Coach Anderson, an unpleasant experience indeed, but unless you scream and kick the lockers in your sleep you will probably nap unnoticed. **Three bells**

The Basement of Davis Theater Room: This place has a clear distinction over other places to nap on campus: complete darkness. The lack of windows and obscure, out of the way location allows you a quite, pitch black place to sleep. The Theater room does require some homework, though. Mr. Morrison and Dr. Fuller both hold classes in this room, so avoid an awkward situation and do your own research to find out when it will be used. **Four bells.**

The best place to nap on campus? You think I would tell you that? No way. The MBA napping experience is an intensely personal one. Find your own spot, is what I am trying to say. So sleep on, brave nappers, sleep on.

History by the Book

A reflection on Ridley Wills' "Gentleman, Scholar, Athlete"

MBA has a rich and storied history, we hear about it all the time. Distinguished alumnus Ridley Wills II compiled it into his book "Gentleman, Scholar, Athlete. Each issue, this year, Aaron Kaplan will bring you a new piece of that history.

By Aaron Kaplan

Staff Writer

In 2005, Ridley Wills II, former chairman of MBA's board of directors and an author of more than a dozen books, published his work on the history of MBA, entitled "Gentleman. Scholar. Athlete". The book includes an introduction written by current headmaster Brad Gioia and the telling of MBA's existence (in several forms) from 1867 to 2004.

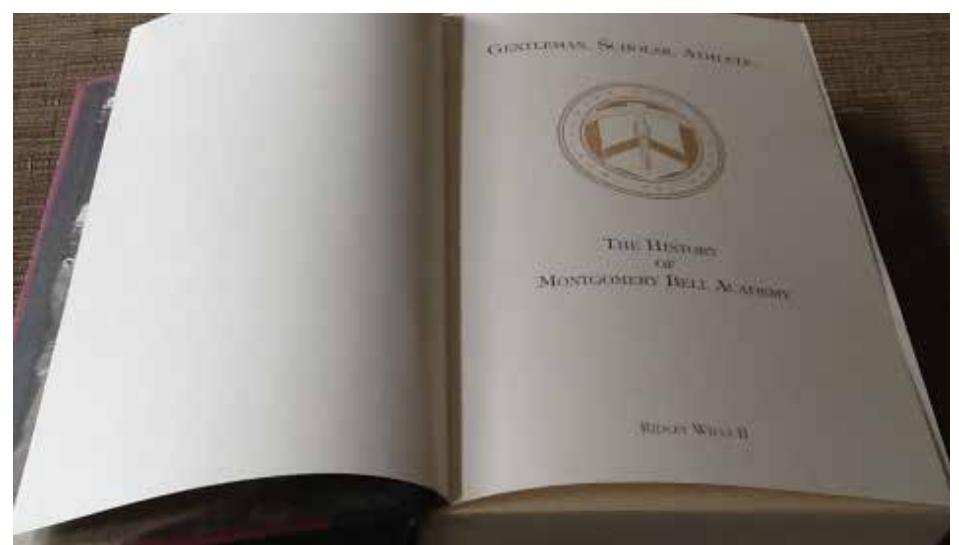
W. Ridley Wills II is a staunch advocate of MBA. His love for the school, the lack of an official history of it, and encouragement from Mr. Gioia fueled the writing of "Gentleman. Scholar. Athlete." Writing the book was a rewarding experience for Mr. Wills. He claims that "the most enjoyable part of writing the book was researching the school's rich

history and discovering information that had been lost to time." The varied sources used to collect the necessary information is evidence of the ease with which much of the information was "lost to time." Among these sources were board-meeting minutes, the "Montgomery Bell Bulletin" and past *Bell Ringers*.

Chapter I, "Birth of An Academy," begins, "The University of Nashville Board met on June 21, 1867, and listened to Chancellor John Berrien Lindsley's report on school affairs. "It would seem advisable at present to take steps towards opening a first-class grammar and high school for boys next September," he said, "and also to correspond with the trustees of the Peabody Education Fund in reference to cooperating with them in this field."

Thus began Montgomery Bell Academy. But that is only the very beginning.

Much has changed within and outside the campus boundaries since that day in 1867. These changes are chronicled in the tellings of MBA's various sports teams, headmasters, and much more through the years. *Gentleman. Scholar. Athlete.* gives readers the opportunity to learn in depth



IN THE BEGINNING : Mr. Wills' book records
MBA's long history

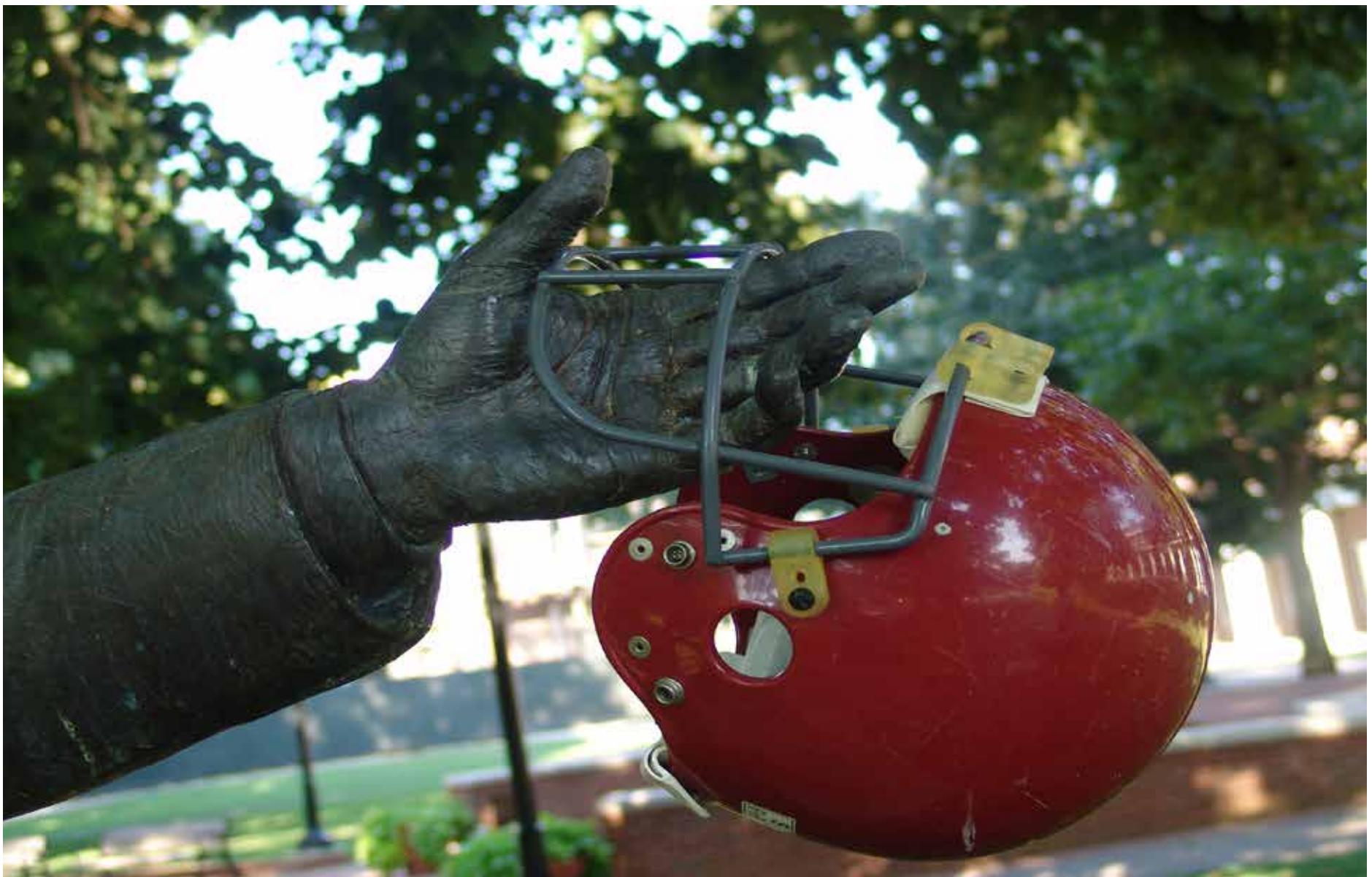
about the school that has, in various forms, been in Nashville for well over a century.

Mr. Wills told the *Bell Ringer*, "I hope everyone who reads the book gains an appreciation for what a fine school MBA has been over the decades and what an impact that headmasters and outstanding teachers like Isaac Ball, Mary Helen Lowry, Francis E. Carter Jr., June Bowen, Tommy Owen, Gordon Bondurant, Douglas Paschall, Brad Gioia and others have had on students."

AARON KAPLAN/BR

"Gentleman. Scholar. Athlete." is available for check out in the Patrick Wilson Library.

The End of Summer



PARRISH PRESON /BR

AND SUMMER FADES INTO...: A record breaking summer has left many parts of the country parched. The MBA Maintenance crew have been hard at work all season to save our verdant campus from the same fate. Turf soccer and football fields have been of aid, but the task has been mammoth. The healthy shades of today's campus are the evidence of three months worth of hard work. The Bell Ringer thanks our friends with the United Nortons for keeping campus pristine per usual.

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CATERING

SPECIAL EVENTS

Running for their lives

by Anthony Swenson
Asst. Sports Editor

The 2012 varsity cross-country team looks primed to continue its recent winning streak. The previous season was strong, although the team placed third in the state meet. The 2012 team lost three seniors, including standout Daniel Peters, who placed first overall in the state meet. Currently, the varsity roster has four empty slots, with only Eric Anderson ('14), Madison Rieke ('13), Gregory Quesinberry ('15), and an injured Alex Smith ('13) returning. Yet the team has received several talented newcomers, including Caleb Carpenter ('14) and Trip Adams ('13).

This season, the team will face tough competition, starting at the Trinity Invitational and followed by the McCallie Invitational as well as the Jesse Owens Classic in Oakville, Alabama. These races will precede the state meet on November 3, at which the team will face perhaps its two biggest rivals: Brentwood Academy and McCallie, each of whom have all seven of their varsity runners returning.

This year's team has a solid freshman group as well as a steadily developing sophomore group which is looking to win at least one championship within the next three seasons. The group

feels confident that they have a good chance to win with hard work and the coaching of Coaches Russ and Kamm. The team will most likely improve within the next few years considering their considerable Microbe success under Coach Russell.

There are many positive aspects of the 2012 MBA cross-country team. Eric Anderson returns after finishing third overall in the state meet along with Madison Rieke, who is coming off an impressive track season. According to Coach Russ, "We have the largest roster in recent years—maybe ever—with lots of freshmen and sophomores, which bodes well for the future."

However, the team faces several challenges: Alex Smith is currently injured after earning All-State Honors as a sophomore. Coach Russ is hoping that "our young runners who started well as freshmen will develop, grow, and improve as sophomores."

Coach Russ also adds, "we could easily end the season with the same sort of squad that Brentwood Academy had last year—a young group that peaks and gels at the right time and is at its best at state even though it suffered some losses earlier in the season." The team is hoping to overcome several obstacles to compete and hopefully capture the third state title in four years.



COURTESY OF MR. RODERICK RUSS

KEEPING UP WITH THE SMITHS: Alex Smith ('13) will be a critical part of the Cross-Country team's success this season.

MBA Olympic hopefuls fall short at 2012 trials, eye Rio in 2016



By Andrew Karpas
Sports Editor

Everyone in the MBA community is sure to have watched at least some of this year's Olympic Games in London, but many may not realize that several MBA graduates came very close to competing in the games. This year there were four alumni who competed in the Olympic Trials in wrestling and swimming.

Philip Simpson competed in the trials in the sport of Freestyle Wrestling. Simpson, son of Varsity Wrestling Coach Frank Simpson, graduated from West Point in 2005. After competing in the 2008 Olympic Trials, Simpson made an effort to qualify again in 2012.

Simpson, who won gold at the Pan American Games earlier this year, made it through the regional qualifiers to the final Olympic Trials held this July in Iowa City, Iowa. He was one of only 13 men to qualify in his weight class of 66 kg, with one lone spot on the Olympic Team up for grabs. Simpson unfortunately failed to qualify for the finals and earn a spot on the Olympic Team.

In swimming, three past members

of the MBA team competed in the trials which took place in Omaha, Nebraska. For the trials, a huge number of athletes spanning all ages compete in the preliminaries of each event, with just two eventually qualifying for the Olympics.

Maclin Davis, who graduated this past year and will attend the University of Southern California in the fall, competed in the 100M Butterfly. Davis finished 13th in the event out of 124 swimmers. He qualified for the semifinal race, but failed to reach the finals.

Jack Murfee, who graduated in '10 and now swims for Virginia, took part in the 100M Backstroke. He finished 67th out of 128 swimmers in the event.

Curtis Lovelace was the last former swimmer to compete with his participation in the 100M and 200M Breaststroke. Lovelace, a 2012 graduate of Stanford, placed 25th in the 100M and 26th in the 200M.

It is clear that many members of the MBA community have excelled athletically after high school and are now performing at the highest levels of their sports. Hopefully, we may see these or other alumni make it all the way to Rio de Janeiro in 2016.

Former MBA athletes thrive in summer heat



By Andrew Karpas
Asst. Sports Editor

The last few months have proved to be an especially exciting time for a couple of MBA grads who are now professional athletes. Baseball player R.A. Dickey and golfer Brant Snedeker each enjoyed resurgent performances during the past summer.

Most people in the world of baseball have become familiar with the story of pitcher R.A. Dickey. After switching to the knuckleball in the middle of his career and playing for multiple minor league teams, the 37-year-old signed a contract with the Mets in 2010. As the 2012 season began in March, Dickey not only became

the Met's starter, but also one of the hottest players in baseball as the summer wore on.

Dickey's first half of the season was marked by some incredible statistics. He went three months without a loss in an 11-game winning streak which ended in July. He also went 44 and 1/3 innings pitched without an earned run and boasted a 0.93 ERA for the month of June. Dickey's performance earned him a selection to his first ever All-Star Game, where he pitched a scoreless inning for the National League. Dickey now has a 14-2 record, tied for the most wins of any pitcher in the MLB. Hopefully his momentum will carry on deep into the rest of the season.

In the realm of golf, class of '99 graduate Brant Snedeker had a huge performance at the British Open this past July. Snedeker not only led The British Open after two sensational rounds, but also tied the record for lowest score through the first two rounds of the tournament with a 130. Snedeker not only shot 10 under par, but also did not have a single bogey in these rounds.

Although Snedeker struggled a little in the final two rounds, he still managed to finish the tournament tied for third with Tiger Woods. He is currently 24th in the World Golf Rankings, and after this performance and a win at the Farmer's Insurance Open earlier this year, Snedeker seems poised for another strong season on the PGA Tour.



ANDREW DUPUIS/BR

IN THE AIR AND IN THE TRENCHES: MBA's receiving corps looks to provide leadership (above). The defensive line figures to control the line of scrimmage as the anchor of a stout defensive unit (below).

Golf team looks to seniors, prepares for testing season



GEOPRGE SWENSON/BR

SENIOR LEADERSHIP: Bevan Petrikin (left) and George Swenson (right) are the lone seniors on the golf team. They hope to instill a hardworking attitude in their fellow golfers.

By Andrew Karpas
Sports Editor

After a disappointing end to last season when the team failed to qualify for the state tournament, this year's varsity golf squad looks to bounce back with a

successful year.

Going into the season, there are a few obvious goals and expectations. The main aspiration for this group is to qualify in the top four at the Region Tournament, which would earn them a spot in the State Tournament. When it comes to expectations,

Strong receivers buoy football team

FOOTBALL >>1

Tony Birdsong, Wilson Johnson, Andrew Einstman, and Tom Kaiser—all seniors. These guys will provide the right mix of speed and size needed to run a successful pro-style offense. Although there is not much room for youth in the receiver category, look for Austin Rolfe to make an appearance every now and then. The offense this year is jam-packed with seniors who will provide good leadership and experience.

The defense appears to be centered around the D-line, with players such as Jay Robertson, Brandon Key, Whit Emerson, Terrence Harris and Alex Bars. A surprise this year could be in the linebackers, as Franklin Garstin returns from an injury and Bryson Jarrett comes off a fine season. Also stepping up at the linebacker position will be Jack Benton. Brooks Best, JeTarii Donald, Michael Lacey, and Travonte Easley look to prove a "no fly zone" this year in the secondary mix of seasoned

veterans and underclassmen. Special teams for MBA should remain solid as returning punter Clint Smith looks to improve upon his already steady average. Led by Coach Joe Davis, the punter/kicker combo has never truly been a problem for the Big Red, as the man is a kicker-producing machine. Landon Bullock has been under the wing of coach Joe for a few years and hopes to step up this year as the kicker for MBA.

The team just recently returned from 3-a-days in Bellbuckle TN, where seniors were impressed with the closeness of this year's team. Nicknamed "Hellbuckle" by the team, the trip sounded unappealing to the non-footballer, but seniors insist it was a great experience, bringing the team closer than they have felt previously in their years on the Hill. The tools for a playoff run are there. Hopefully all will fall into place and MBA fans will see their team dominating the field late into November.

Big Red Football Schedule

With only three away games compared to five home games, the schedule this year seems to favor the Big Red.

August 17: Kingsbury
August 24: Trinity
August 31: at Brentwood Academy
September 7: BYE
September 14: at Battle Ground

Academy
September 21: Pearl-Cohn
September 28: Father Ryan
(HOMECOMING)
October 5: at Ensworth
October 12: BYE
October 19: BYE
October 26: Pope John Paul II

and Senior George Swenson. The team consists of a very wide variety of grades including one 8th grader, one freshman, four sophomores, four juniors, and two seniors.

The team's lineup will be challenged every time they hit the course, with nearly every match coming against a State Championship contender. Tough tests include dual matches against Ensworth, McCallie, Baylor, BA, and BGA. They will also compete in the prestigious Preview Tournament hosted by Baylor, which should attract the best competition in the state.

One of the team's biggest strengths this year will be their depth. When asked about this issue, Coach Harvey explained, "I think we have 12 guys that can compete in the top 5 spots any day of the week. These boys will push each other all season and guarantee we get the best guys out there for Regions. This team works hard, and understands it is a team sport and that we are only as strong as our weakest link each time we take the course." One weakness of the squad could be its youth and the fact that many members are untested in pressure situations.

Overall, the biggest competition for a State Championship will be McCallie's team, which won the title last year and did not graduate a single player. Coach Harvey feels that "It is a very deep field across the state and whoever shows up on the big days has a chance to win," but is confident that his team will "grow a lot throughout the year and be ready at season's end." It is clear that the Varsity Golf Team has a great chance to contend for a State Title this season.

Head Coach John Harvey hopes that this team "will compete every day, play with integrity, and respect the game of golf."

The team will most likely be led by the captain and only returning senior Bevan Petrikin. There will also be contributions made by returning Junior Cal Fisher

Dirty Projectors' new "Swing Lo Magellan" swings high

Freshest studio effort more confident, austere

By Lucas Littlejohn
Entertainment Editor

Dirty Projectors, an alternative band out of Brooklyn since 2002 under the direction of vocalist/guitarist David Longstreth, released their seventh studio album "Swing Lo Magellan" on July 10th.

First off, let me just say that this is an extremely well-crafted bunch of songs. I looked forward to seeing the band's progression from their 2008 release "Bitte Orca," and "Magellan" did not disappoint. In fact, I am incredibly pleased with the subtly new direction the band has taken in four years.

The decadent layering of Longstreth's vocals remain, as well as the complex, if occasionally hyperactive guitar melodies, and the simple, driving drum rhythms. However, "Bitte Orca" tried to do a little too much, tried to experiment a little too much, and in its complexity it came across as convoluted at times to the unaccustomed listener. With "Swing Lo Magellan," Longstreth and Dirty Projectors have achieved a stunning and powerful balance: guitar and vocal parts are spontaneous and complex, while drum rhythms and the number of instruments used are relatively simple. In 2012, they don't try to fill up the extra space like they did in 2008. Austerity done with confidence.

Take "Dance for You" for

example. The only instruments present are the simple clap, a repeating snare drum, a light guitar melody, and eventually some violins and flutes, all underneath Longstreth's floating and commanding vocals. In this song, as well as the whole album, they know when enough is enough, and don't continue to add on and overwork their music. The lineup of instruments is

not complex enough that it conflicts with the complexity of the rhythms.

"Swing Lo Magellan" doesn't experiment as much as previous albums because it is more comfortable and confident in its own sound. That being said, it is more listenable than "Bitte Orca," and it can reach a wider range of people with a wider range of musical tastes. Some people

would call this selling out, but in my opinion, a band is free to make the music it wants to make. So, Dirty Projectors, you intrepid group, I applaud you. You have made a great album.

Score: 4.5 bells out of 5



— The Highlights —

Lucas's favorite tracks from the album, in no particular order:

"About to Die" Bubbly hand drums, a simple, harp-like guitar part, and spectacular vocals and back-up vocals, this song is a joy to listen to, despite its grim title.

"Just from Chevron" This song sounds a lot like the best parts of Bitte Orca, especially the 2008 album's best song, "No Intention." A great summer song that anyone would love.

"Unto Caesar" Though it seems to be the most complex song, breaking the mold of the rest of the album, this song made the list because it is pure fun. Honorable mentions: the rest of the album.



ALBUM COVER: Frontman David Longstreth serenades a passerby on the cover of "Swing Lo Magellan."



HARRY STEWART/BR

TEN TASTY TACOS: It took two trays to contain every taco sampled by the Bell Ringer.

Local Taco offers variety of unique treats

By Harry Stewart
Food Reviewer

Just across West End from MBA lies a wonderful Mexican restaurant that serves old favorites with a unique spin. Just 3 years old, Local Taco is already a huge hit among Nashville's diners.

Local Taco has become famous for, not surprisingly, its tacos. Each one is delicious in its own way, and none fail to satisfy. The Bell Ringer ventured down Cherokee to try it. All of it. Every single taco in one sitting. Here's the rundown.

Spicy Shrimp – The buttermilk-fried shrimp goes very well with the creamy and spicy jalapeno Cole slaw. 3/5 bells

Local BBQ – Even smoked, pulled pork with vinegar sauce and Cole slaw is great in a flour tortilla! 3.5/5 bells

Portabella Mushroom – Even the vegetarian taco is delicious, with tart goat cheese contrasting the rich mushrooms and onions. 3.5/5 bells

Tequila Lime Chicken – Spicy and sour come together wonderfully in this taco, with lime marinated chicken and fresh salsa verde. 3.5/5 bells

Carnitas – A great blend of spiced, pulled pork and Pico de gallo makes an old Tex-Mex classic even better. 4/5 bells

Korean BBQ – Both sweet and savory at the same time, the Korean BBQ short ribs and Asian slaw make great tacos. 4/5 bells

Smoked Brisket – The pickled onions balance the strong flavor of smoky beef brisket wonderfully. 4.5/5 bells

Fish Taco – A Mexican twist on fish n' chips, the fish taco is crunchy, creamy, and spicy all at the same time. 4.5/5 bells

Buffalo Chicken – The spicy buffalo chicken and creamy blue cheese sauce make for a delicious taco. 4.5/5 bells This taco is truly the Garfunkle to the Simon that is ...

Southern Fried – My personal favorite, the fried chicken with lime honey mustard is a flavor combination that can't be beaten. The Muhammad Ali of the Local Taco. 5/5 bells

The restaurant has many tempting options, and the tacos are only the beginning. Ultimately, however, the Local Taco in that one particular specialty, and supplies a mecca of good food for most any taco junky.



PARRISH PRESTON/BR

The year ahead

Theater preview

The 2012-2013 theater season promises audacious acts

By Alex Floyd
Staff Writer

During my time as a Big Red thespian, I have never been more excited for an MBA Players theater season. The vastness and challenge of these shows is enough to make anyone quiver with excitement. Ranging from outrageous musical farces, to tear jerking hospital drama, to classic 19th Century literature, to Mozart, the thespians present the darkest and most exciting theater season in years. I write this preview as a precaution for the most audacious, edgiest, and dare I say sauciest season to date.

August 29-September 1

Lucky Stiff

Book and lyrics by Lynn Ahrens; Music by Stephen Flaherty

You heard it correctly! MBA is again hosting the annual MBA/HH Musical. An Englishman named Harry (played by not Dr. Boyd surprisingly but extremely talented sophomore Jess Darnell), finds himself \$6 million dollars richer after his uncle was murdered in Atlantic City. However, to receive the money from the will, Harry must take his dead uncle's body on vacation to Monte Carlo. Yeah, it's nuts and hilarious. Dr. Fuller applies his immense directorial talents to this running riot. Come see it. We're a week into rehearsals and it's already awesome. **Reserve tickets (free for students, faculty and staff but required for everyone) go on sale the week before the show. Must pick up ticket to attend.**



PREPARING TO RAISE THE CURTAIN: The cast of "Lucky Stiff" celebrates the completion of blocking with a break for popsicles (left). The stage beckons to be filled (right). Paul Moore ('13) helps paint the set for "Lucky Stiff" (top).

October 4

Performance times: Wed, Thurs, and Fri at 7pm; Sat at 2pm & 7pm.

The Elephant Man
by Bernard Pomerance

Dr. Seay hopes to improve on the success of last year's competition One-Act with this compelling and inspiring tale of courage. John Merrick, also known as the Elephant Man, has lived his life as a severely deformed social pariah, until he is discovered by Dr. Frederick Treves, an up-and-coming English surgeon. Dr. Treves helps Merrick discover his worth and beauty. Soon Merrick becomes the toast of the London upper-class, but as Merrick's case gathers fame, his condition grows worse. Can the young doctor help the Elephant Man? Come see this one-night only performance. **Performance time: 7pm**

November 15-18

Great Expectations
by Charles Dickens, adapted by Nick Ormerod and Declan Donnellan

The eternally innovative Mr. Morrison tackles this timeless classic. Phillip Pirrip, or Pip, a blacksmith's apprentice, discovers what it means to truly be a gentleman, as he moves away from his not so glamorous beginning, and rises in society. One of the most beloved and acclaimed stories of all time comes to life on the MBA stage. **Performance times: Thursday, Friday & Saturday at 7pm; Sunday at 2pm.**

January 24-26

Ali Baba and the Magic Cave
by William Glennon

Dr. Seay directs the junior school show based on Tales from the Arabian Nights. Ali Baba commits thievery against thieves in this hilarious Danny Ocean-esque, Robin Hood-esque tale that demonstrates the talent that dwells in the depths of Massey. **Performance times: Thursday & Friday at 7pm; Saturday at 2pm.**

February 21-24

Amadeus
by Peter Shaffer

Dr. Fuller directs one of the most successful plays of the 20th century. One of the most respected composers in Europe, the Italian Salieri is content with his life, until he meets Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Salieri becomes obsessed with the foolish, yet genius prodigy and devotes his life to Mozart's destruction. One of my favorite plays - come see it. **Performance times: Thursday, Friday & Saturday at 7pm; Sunday at 2pm.**

April 18-20

Student-Directed One-Act Plays

Again this year, seniors in the Studio Theater class choose and direct a collection of short plays. **Performance times: Thursday & Friday at 7pm; Saturday at 2pm.**



COURTESY OF DR. CAL FULLER

Lollapalooza the perfect trip for MBA music lovers



HIGHAM IN THE WILDERNESS: John Higham ('14) wanders the wild and wooly fields of Lollapalooza

By John Higham
Staff Writer

Lollapalooza - [lol-uh-puh-loo-zuh] - noun - 1. An extraordinary or unusual thing, person or event.

Friday, August 3rd, 11:00 AM: The gates to Chicago's Grant Park opened ceremoniously as the Star Wars theme song played. Throngs of eager music enthusiasts rushed the through security and into the festival grounds. It was the first day of the 21st annual Lollapalooza music festival.

Joined by fellow MBA student Chip Evans, I had the opportunity to attend this massive gathering. We entered the festival grounds right away. With an hour or so to kill before the first show we wanted to see, we picked up some quick lunch from one of the 36 delicious food vendors in Chow Town. With a flavorful steak burrito from Burrito Beach in my stomach, I suggested to Chip that we go see a show.

We joined the hordes of neck-bearded basement

dwellers at the Google Play stage to see the videogame inspired band, Anamanaguchi. On stage, they had two guitarists, a bassist, a drummer, and a hacked Nintendo Entertainment System that they have programmed to sample audio from 1980's video games. Their rapid, guitar driven and voiceless tracks got the crowd dancing. Their final track, "Helix Nebula," was fantastic. I couldn't help but join in on a little headbanging.

From there, we walked over to the Red Bull Soundstage to see the much smoother and more traditional sounding Dr. Dog. I have seen them play in Nashville before and they did not disappoint. It was a nice return to sanity after the sensory assault of the Anamanaguchi show.

After Dr. Dog's phenomenal set, we took a little bit to just walk around and take in the festival's sights. After a relaxing respite, we made our way back to the Google Play stage to see the newly popular British act, SBTRKT (pronounced subtract). SBTRKT had two people on stage, each wearing tribal masks. They played a combination of electronic instruments and traditional instruments.

They played one of the most diverse shows I've ever seen despite its short duration, switching off between drums, synthesizers, keyboards, computers and vocal microphones.

After SBTRKT, we moved into the infamous Perry's stage. Perry's, named after festival founder Perry Farrell, is the electronic stage, responsible for all the wub wub and virtually all the festival's injuries. Risk of personal injury aside, the Lolla experience wouldn't be complete without a little electronic music mixed in. So we danced and rocked to Porter Robinson and Nero's high-energy sets. Porter was impressive because of the diversity of his sampling. He incorporated fan favorites such as Deadmau5, Justice, and Bill O'Reilly, ensuring the crowd never bored.

When we couldn't handle any more kick drums and computer noises, we hiked down the hill to the already substantial crowd gathering for Nashville locals, the Black Keys. To avoid the crowd and in hopes to get a slightly better view, we took some seats in the side stage lounge. I had a conversation with Tim Mitchell, the man responsible for bringing the music festival to Chicago. He told me all about how he miraculously convinced the mayor of Chicago to let him put on a three day rock festival in the heart of downtown Chicago as well as all the complications of bringing 90,000 people into Grant Park. Abruptly, the Black Keys began their set with some songs off their recent album, "El Camino." To my surprise and excitement, they moved into some of their older music as they shed band members and reverted to their original two man show. With the reverb up, they finished an amazing show with their drum heavy track, "Your Touch."

With Friday behind us, Chip and I awaited the next two days of music. Scheduled for Saturday and Sunday were the Red Hot Chili Peppers, Jack White, Justice, Bloc Party, Moon Taxi, and JEFF the Brotherhood. To anyone who has the chance, I strongly recommend making the trip to Chicago for Lollapalooza. It's a long way, but I would not want to be anywhere else.

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RIGHT PLACE, RIGHT TEAM: No bonus points for spotting Chris



THUG LIFE: Nick exchanges dap with Tupac

Juniors become upperclassmen, up their class, man

By Well Hamilton
Features Editor

Juniors brace for impact as registration rapidly approaches. **Wilson Vaughn** faces having to shave his mountain man beard, while **Harrison Davies** emerges from his cabin in the woods where his banjo picks have actually become embedded in his fingers. **Sam Harwell** lost ten pounds following his back to school haircut. **Russell Carpenter** has yet to get over his barber shop phobia, so he plans to just pile all that luscious flow on top of his head and hope no one notices. More power to you, Russell.

Other MBA students fear returning to the dress code. **Ben Yahnian** found that his self-expression was allowed to roam free in the summer months, with his outfits becoming more and more outlandish. Now he must return to multi-colored pants as a form of expression. However, nine months wasn't enough time with the dress code for many members of the grade. Many students

decided to take MBA with them wherever they went and wear pastel colored button down shirts and khaki shorts. With the exception of khaki shorts instead of pants, **Nick Boney** hasn't broken MBA dress code all summer. Great work, Nick.

In other news, **Blake Patton**'s final expansion has occurred. During the summer, he has expanded his quest for women beyond Brentwood and is now operating in every school in Middle Tennessee (possibly further, there is no way of knowing definitively). We tried to interview members of the "Harding Elite" (**Denney Lackey**, you are included) now that their traditional territory is being encroached on, but they were all at separate Facebook photo-shoots, and therefore couldn't issue statements. We guess this would be the traditional time to throw in a **Keith Gambill** and Maggie joke, but contrary to what **David Harrison** would tell you, jokes tend to lose their luster after their third year in existence.

MBA Football is in full swing, with several MBA juniors ready to take the

field in the fall. **Jay Robertson**'s biceps are reaching a critical mass. The science department at MBA fears that his biceps will have developed their own gravitational pull. We here at the MBA class news article know what you're thinking. You're thinking, "Oh great, this is the part when they make some snarky comment about **Grey Reams**." Well we're not going to. So there. If you're like us, you probably think that **DJ Clark**'s intimidation factor couldn't go up. However, the addition of a blonde Mohawk was certainly a boost.

Summer reading has intrigued and frustrated many juniors. **Christian King** said of George Orwell's *1984*, "I believe that the book was conceived as an acute warning to future generations to be cautious about expansive government and radical socialist philosophies." **Harrison Davies**, having read this year's summer reading books in advance as a seventh grader, shared similar sentiments.

Sophomores undergo transformation from Freshmen to not Freshmen, take delight in little things

By Owen Powell
Staff Writer

Unfortunately the concluding Class News yesteryear was submitted late and therefore not in the final Bell Ringer. The entirety of it was remembering all those great times of freshman year..... it was rather short. **Andrew Porter** was interviewed about his leadership skills and his role in leading the Big Red Chorus to a State Championship last year. He is hoping to have a comparable influence on the Chamber Choir this year.

Summer has come and gone really quickly, and many of us have been busy preparing for, and competing in numerous sports. **Zach Roberts** has been working his golf swing up to the point that he is almost as good as **H. "Jeremy" Lien**. Harrison Lien is an obvious starter on the football team! **John Triplett** deserves a shout out for doing a stellar job helping manage the varsity football team. **Will Pearson** went ham over the summer getting 10th in the Nation in Javelin. Yeah he throws Jav, which is obviously the only track event more bro than Bro-le Vault. Speaking of Bro, **William Richardson** was spotted August 9th, throwing Lax WITHOUT A LAX PENNY ON! It renders the question, is Fratstar no



IAN, CURTIS, MAC AND MAT: CaliSwag redefined for a new year

longer the fratty-daddy? Only time can tell us, but what will the Sophomore class be if our frat star departs into the world of wearing regular college student attire!? **Stephen Ray** and **Parks Ball** are ready to take the reins if William falls off course; lets hope that isn't necessary.

In gaming news **Arthur Churchwell** can confirm that **Jay Thomas** has a 3.0 ratio in Black Ops, oh yes, he is that good. If you are asking yourselves, who is Arthur, he is one of the additions to our sophomore class along with **Harrison Wheeler**. Harrison Wheeler decided doing things like a champion at BA wasn't challenge enough and is now doing it big at MBA. Arthur decided hanging up north with the Yankees wasn't fitting his style either. Both are great addition to our class.



PUCKER FACE: Henry and Richard eating WarHeads like it's 1999 again

Unfortunately **Nathan Smith** is departing MBA to start doing it big at a different school this year. Nate Smith is still #1 in all our hearts.

Mac Mackey, **Matt "Mickoley" Miccioli**, **Curtis Turner**, and **Ian Scholer** have been "studying" languages off in California during the past summer and enhancing their minds. Mac has spent an entire 3 days in Nashville this entire summer! **Wren McFadden** has donated much of his summer working in New Orleans doing good deeds and other services to our community because that's how great of a guy he is.

Needless to say this sophomore class is new, improved, and ready for a stellar year. Wear Chubbies Shorts and always chew Big Red Gum.

Freshmen are just really excited to be here

By Jack Litchfield
Staff Writer

This summer gave the Class of '16 a break before beginning the transition from Junior School to high school, and most students took advantage of the time. **Dani Biegel** solved a Rubix cube and even has a t-shirt to prove it. **Neil Richardson** slopped hard all summer, and **Wes Richardson** wrote a song about fried chicken. As we move to the high school, everybody is sure to take on some new responsibilities. For example, **Chase Meluch** will be inheriting the throne of Lord Farquhar.

Some decided to get a job over summer break. **Sam Anderson** became the manager of the Chum Bucket, but never kept his promise to steal the Krabby Patty recipe. If you were at the Publix in Belle Meade this summer and were confused when the person bagging your stuff couldn't see over the counter, it was probably just **Russell McGinn**. Other freshmen traveled out of the country. **Alec Whitson** biked in France and **Adam Young** sang with his choir in Europe. **Tony Ding** and **Alvin Zhang** did math all summer.

The football season for the freshmen is sure to be a success with all the #hardwork and #dedication **JC Fogg** put into his workouts this summer. In other sports news, **Nadir Saleh** was voted the MVP of his summer league soccer team, but **Grayson Lester** was a close second.

Despite several zombie attacks that occurred this summer, **Matt Hopp** denies any involvement. He does admit to using bath salts, though. **Hudson "Hornet" "Stanky" "Honey" Coombs** needs an official nickname. **Brinton Hoover** ate paper towels, and **Richie Scherrer** says he grew a whole inch this summer. **Jackson Siktberg** was a little slow on the pick up, and **Max Turner** somehow survived the Ocoee. Lastly, no one can pronounce **Luke Cianciolo**'s name right even after two years.

One last message to the 20 new freshmen coming to MBA: Hope you like football.

David Maynard breaks Australia, seniors rejoice

By **McLean Hudson**
Co-news Editor

Hot dang, team. We made it. It's been a long five years on the Hill, but it still feels like yesterday we were signing the register for the first time. Oh the memories. But for MBA's newest senior class, the past summer alone offers plenty to reflect on, so I'll skip the melodramatic preamble (kind of) and just tell everyone how much fun we had.

Of course tons of seniors went on a traditional exchange or a Wilson Grant-sponsored trip. Some highlights include **Jackson Flora** introducing the concepts of flow and frat to España (where **Alan Liang** probably did not speak a lick of Spanish), while **David "Diesel/D-Mayne/D-Train" Maynard** went M.I.A. in Australia. And, of course, **Jake Simons** worked his magic in Rome.

Along with the aforementioned **Snake**, **Kevin Wang** venit, vedit, and visit this summer, especially at the Classical League Convention where, among other things, he went ham on the piano. At Duke Creative Writing Camp, **Jackson Cole** got away with some serious PDA, while **McKay Proctor** and myself caught heat for said offence, though the latter to a much greater (though undeserved) extent.

Speaking of me, my mom called several times on the fourth of July while I was busy. Fortunately, **Bevan Petrikin** and **Alex Smith** were there to let me know. Later that night **Chris Habermann** was spotted at Belle Meade Country Club later that night with an alarmingly young-looking group of ladies.

While his classmates celebrated the ol' USA on the fourth and during the Olympics, **Mitchell Flautt** wore zero articles of clothing that even slightly resembled something an American born-and-bred child person might wear.

Not only did **Jody Gorham** not play baseball this summer (due to a nagging elbow injury), but he was not re-tweeted by **McKayla Maroney**. That's cold, **McKayla**. **Pig Rieke** had a pretty ratty 'stache going during the summer, and it was just barely overshadowed by **Joe Richardson's** lumberjack beard. A moment of silence for a departed brother.

Andrew Scott rode shotgun for a week with Momma Rolfe, **Nick Peterson** was a ninja, **Ryan Owen** coded, and **Mark Lowe** proved that yes, you can ace life with zero effort. Strike that, **Mark** can, as confirmed by his straight 5's in the AP classes that he a) slept through, b) paid zero attention in, or c) fondled **Jackson Flora** for the entirety of the period.

William Yang is grieving the end to a buckwild summer, while **Tom Kaiser** begins to shed his leaves with the approach of autumn. **Sam Waitt** has gained a fascination with the number ten (for it is the number of perfection, after all) and also plans to write a poem.

Trip Adams went hard as usual with his baseball team, but **Willy J** went harder, getting an offer to long snap for Purdue after attending their prospect camp. While **Adam Bowman** was making international headlines for confirming the existence of the god particle, **Mattison Asher** was raging on two continents.

Brooks Best has been reported to

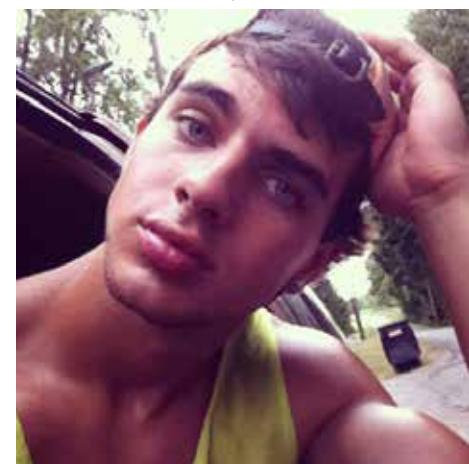
have changed his prof picture thirteen times this summer, breaking the longstanding mark of every other person in our grade: one. **Chris Duffy** got fifth in the city dive meet at 3 meters with his signature double gainer (with speedo). And while he most definitely dyed his hair, there are burgeoning reports that **Christian Sargent** maybe, just maybe, followed suit.

Landon Bullock kicked pretty much all summer to get prepped for football and refuses to admit that he gets bored of it. **John Tully** and **George Swenson** having been putting on a show for the ladies by running the stairs at the end of Belle Meade Boulevard shirtless on a quest to get swell.

Patrick Moody and **Sam Turner** are currently on the moon with **Jake Simons**' older brother. I saw **Sam Edwards** at Sunday school a few weeks ago, but he wasn't alone. **Whit Emerson** was surprised with his own truck upon his return from two-a-days. **Barry Goldsmith** ate some Captain Crunch Barrys.

Ryan Flack, **Paul Moore**, and **Robert Papel** rowed a lot to get ready for the fall season, but **Pap Daddy** was lost in thoughts of the Q. **Nick Green** considered, at the beginning of the summer, ceasing fooling with buttons on his shirts and just letting it hang, but in the end he decided that the full frontal approach just doesn't have the same effect as the classic "four button deep v" look.

It was a good summer. It'll be a good year. Nine months left boys. Don't blink.



IN THOUGHT: Were that the weight of the world were less, right Brooks?



FABIO APPROVED: Henry blends in with the locals



ROCK AND A WIERD PLACE: Conner leaves no stone unturned

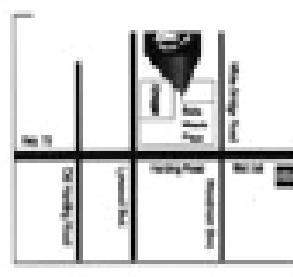


GHOSTRIDE: No bike? No prob, bro.



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WHO IS THE BATMAN?

By McKay Proctor
and Alex Floyd
Staff Bronies

We here at the Bell Ringer think it's fair to say that 98% of you saw the close of Christopher Nolan's epic Batman trilogy, "The Dark Knight Rises" over the summer. The other two percent are Amish or actually did their summer reading ahead of time. Being an inquisitive, and easily distracted bunch, this set us down the path of determining the true identity of the Hill's own Caped Crusader. But why stop there? We will even go so far as to identify his whole merry band of misfits and Morgan Freemans. Who said comic books would never help us in "real life?" Now park your batcycles and put on your dinner jackets! Let's get nerdy!

Alfred:

Which British Islander most fits the role of Bruce Wayne's wizened butler companion?

This one is tough right off the bat. Dr. Boyd has the encyclopedic knowledge, but cannot match Mr. Kelly's wiliness and sheer volume of life experience. Not to mention that Mr. Kelly really likes Ishiguro's Remains of the Day and would gladly burn down a whole forest regardless of whether a jewel thief was hiding in it or not. Mr. Kelly, however hates the English and their colonialism (understandably), and would probably be a bad butler with his penchant for independent thought and what not. Plus he would have a hard time caring for a billionaire playboy without letting his wit get away from him, for example replacing touching letters from Rachel Dawes with just a big pile of anthrax because he's the primary beneficiary of the will ("Looks like we're off to Mexico, Mickey!"). While Dr. Boyd would likely be an awesome butler, he a) fits another role better and b) does not have glorious gray hair like, oh I don't know, Mr. Morrison. This one is really sealed by the name. Does Malcolm Morrison not sound like a comic book character? Give us one good reason why this does not work. Don't worry. We'll wait. Are you done thinking dumb things? He has all the eccentricity and wit of Mr. Kelly without being from the wrong island, all of the butler skill of Dr. Boyd while still having a whole life to look back on. Yes Mr. Morrison shall be our Alfred.



ROBIN BOYD WONDER :Artist's rendition



IN SEARCH OF THE BATMAN: *We do the Commissioner Gordoning so you don't have to*

Bane:

By far Batman's most physically dominant super villain, HANDS DOWN!!! (maybe Killer Croc but really?! Killer Croc is one of the stupidest villains in the whole realm of Batman. I'd place in the same league as The Mad Hatter and Maxie Zeus and therefore I refuse to acknowledge his existence). One might even say that he is more dominant than 16 year Chinese Olympian Shiwen Ye. The MBA faculty member who would fill the role of the physical giant very impressively is physics guru and football coach, Travis Barclay. Mr. Barclay has the ridiculously intimidating stature that's enough to get even the Dark Knight to wet his spandex, just ask any of those MAC linemen who felt the his wrath in his football hay-day, but he is ALSO brilliant enough to pull off the incrediplans that Bane has arranged for Gotham City.

Coach Barclay's only competition also comes from science department. The man, the myth, the legend, Coach Gillespie. Can't you just see him at Heinz Field, home of the Gotham City Rogues, shouting for revolution? Hol'up, I think one the cheerleaders just passed out. In fact the whole squad is fainting left and right like a herd of myotonic goats.

Barclay has the physicality, but the spiritual edge to Mr. Gillespie.

The Riddler

Dr. Shackleford. Next question.

Solomon Grundy Born on Monday:

This Batman villain haunts the sewers of Gotham for eternity. Only Mr. Gaither could possibly compete for this spot. I mean, he roamed the sweaty, soggy dungeons of Wallace Hall for forty odd years. And loved every minute of it.

The Penguin

The Penguin is an intriguing villain, mainly because of the monocles, bowties and Danny DeVito, but where does The Penguin dwell at MBA? Who is Oswald Cobblepot? Answer. Dr. Tarkington.

YOU: Yeah, well, you know, that's just, like, your opinion, man.

ME: No. It's fact or whatever a fact is in this context.

Penguin wears bowties. Dr. Tarkington wears bowties. Penguin also has a plethora of uses for his umbrella. He uses his umbrella as a machine gun, flame-thrower, sword, missile launcher, acid sprayer, laser, toothpick...the list goes

on. The Doctor uses his umbrella with more dexterity and skill than any other faculty member or human being for that matter with the exception of Sean Connery in *The Avengers* (not the 2012 summer block buster, but the 1998 Ralph Fiennes disaster. Google it. Better yet, don't.). He uses it with the instinct, and grace reminiscent of Donatello (both the painter and the Ninja Turtle).

This one just screams Dr. Tarkington. Mentally tough and a criminal genius, Penguin is a threat to Gotham. Dr. Tarkington is more of a threat to the menacing boa constrictors that are slowly but surely slithering their way up to the Mid-south from the Florida Everglades, but with his trusty umbrella at his side, those snakes better make like a tree and leave.

Catwoman:

Mila Kunis (the streak lives!).

Robin, Boy Wonder:

Only two members of the MBA faculty have the right mix of boyish charm, ingenuity, cornball jokes, and mask ready face to be the sidekick to the Dark Knight. Señor Kamm makes a lot of sense. He certainly has the problem solving ability, seems like he would be a scarily accurate Bat-a-rang thrower, and also has the most inexplicable back story of the faculty (Utah? Really Señor? Likely story.).

Unfortunately, he loses out to someone too perfect to pass up: One Tim S. R. Boyd. Dr. Boyd has an even sketchier back story (You're an Englishman whose specialty is Southern history? I totally take that on face value! There's no way you're hiding a trapeze artist past!). Dr. Boyd has an extensive knowledge of Monty Python and an incredible recall of random facts and dates. This means things like "Holy Treaty of Westphalia, Batman! It's apartment 1648!" or "Jumpin' Jesuits, Batman! It's that unexpected Spaniard, The Grand Inquisitor!" are fully possible. Not to mention his hair is darker, and better fitted to the traditional Robin spike. We think this case is closed. Robin, Boyd wonder.

Batman, Caped Crusader

As hard as it is to resist Bat-Kamm puns, we could not take the prospect of Señor Kamm as the Batman too far in the face of his competition, but we will take this opportunity to place a comically captioned picture of him in the margin.

The lowest hanging fruit in the

race to be the Batman is the most powerful man on campus, the headmaster. He does have a strong moral compass, connections, and have you really ever heard about him sleeping? He could easily be the man behind the cowl. What about coach McMurray? He has the mental and physical portions covered, and an energetic personality to match. What about Mr. Quinn? He sure has been defensive every time we get close to the bust of Shakespeare in the library. Maybe it's Mr. Bernatavitz? He is a mysterious and enigmatic guy who has a fascination with the old world. Who are we to say he isn't a secret judo master? Mr. Shumaker? He loves martial arts after all. And he does wear sunglasses a lot. Maybe he likes the dark a little too much?

The options are endless, and we can never know for sure until the Batman takes off his little mask and shows us who he is (insert Heath Ledger laugh here). What am I saying? Of course I can know who it is. It's Coach John Lanier.

Do you need a moment? Need to unscramble your batsignal? Take your time. Ok. Good? Good.

Here is the airtight case for Coach being Batman. First and foremost, have you ever seen Batman and Coach Lanier in the same place at the same time? He walks like he has "no cartilage left in his knees." He drives a cool car. He loves football and can you deny that he's flown to England every weekend since 1985 to boat with the Moscow Ballet? I for one cannot. Honestly, if Batman is trying to protect the ones he loves, would there be a better place to hide than in the same room in Wallace for like a billion years? The finisher comes from the voice. It operates at no recognizable human frequency and without regard for normal English grammar and vocabulary. This could not be an accident. The Bell Ringer investigative team have it in mind that the Batman voice is the real voice and the Coach voice is the act. Good job team.

So the next time you find yourself on campus at night (Why are you on campus at night? Are you painting to cannons? Are you trying to prevent people from painting the cannons?) know that from the shadows of the bell tower, and the back alleys and the windowless pillars of New Wallace, there watches a guardian. He protects us and keeps us, and we must be grateful. You shall know him by his call, a resounding call of "Happy-Happy Joy-Joy!"



EL HOMBRE DE LOS MURCIÉLAGOS?